

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 217981  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 AID-05 IGA-02 OES-07 IO-14  
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DRAFTED BY EA/J:E M FEATHERSTONE:KAM  
APPROVED BY EA/J:R N KILPATRICK  
EA/ANP:E HURWITZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY  
INFO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

UNCLAS STATE 217981

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, JA, US

SUBJECT: TTPI REQUESTS GOJ FISHERIES ASSISTANCE

1. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR (RUTH G. VAN CLEVE, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS) HAS SENT LETTER TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE REQUESTING DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO COMMUNICATE TTPI REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT TO APPROPRIATE GOJ OFFICIALS. THIS REQUEST IS APPARENTLY AN OUTGROWTH OF GOJ FISHERIES SURVEY MISSION WHICH VISITED TTPI FROM 7/13 TO 8/3, 1977. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S CONVEYING THIS REQUEST TO APPROPRIATE MOFA OFFICIALS.

2. FULL TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS: QUOTE. YOU WILL BE AWARE FROM RECENT COMMUNICATIONS THAT A JAPANESE GOVERNMENT FISHERIES SURVEY MISSION VISITED THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS FROM JULY 13 TO AUGUST 3, 1977.

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3. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER DURING THAT VISIT, IT WAS DETERMINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN MIGHT JOIN WITH THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT SEVERAL MARINE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. SPECIFIC INTEREST WAS DEMONSTRATED BY THE JAPANESE MISSION IN PROGRAMS TO DEMONSTRATE THE VALUE OF THE WAR CLAIMS SKIPJACK FISHING VESSELS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MICRONESIAN BASED TUNA

FISHERY, AND TO DETERMINE WAYS IN WHICH WEAK TROPICAL TUNA BAITFISH CAN BE MADE MORE SUITABLE FOR OPERATIONS ON THE HIGH SEAS. YOU WILL ALSO RECALL THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT IN 1976 PROCURED SEVEN NEW 26-GROSS TON FIBERGLASS REINFORCED PLASTIC (FRP) VESSELS FROM JAPAN UNDER THE U.S. JAPAN WAR CLAIMS AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR SKIPJACK TUNA FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, ON TRIALS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY, IT WAS FOUND THAT THE BAITWELLS OF THESE VESSELS DID NOT OPERATE ADEQUATELY. BAIT COULD NOT BE KEPT ALIVE IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES. MODIFICATIONS ARE BEING MADE IN THESE VESSELS, BUT SPECIALIZED TRAINING FOR CREWS ALSO IS NEEDED. THIS WOULD BE PART OF THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COOPERATION THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS PREPARED TO OFFER.

4. ON BEHALF OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, WE ASK THAT YOU OFFICIALLY COMMUNICATE THE REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

5. THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN JAPAN WAS INVOLVED WITH THE WAR CLAIMS SKIPJACK VESSEL PROCUREMENT AND WITH THE RECENT VISIT OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT FISHERIES SURVEY MISSION AND THE EMBASSY OFFICIALS THERE ARE AWARE OF THE GENERAL PROGRAM. SINCERELY YOURS, MRS. RUTH G. VAN CLEVE. END  
QUOTE. VANCE  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
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